

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough consideration provided the present application. Claims 1, 4-7 and 10-15 are present in the application. Claims 1 and 7 are independent. By this amendment, claims 1, 4, 5, 7 and 10 are amended. No new matter is involved.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 4-7 and 10-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 7,184,950 to Weise. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1, as amended, recites "a text generation method for generating an entire natural sentence from parts of the sentence that do not constitute an entire sentence, comprising: an input step using input means for inputting only parts of the sentence that do not constitute an entire sentence, wherein the entire natural sentence is characteristic of a style or an expression, a subsequent extracting step using extracting means for extracting candidate sentence parts or phrases, which include an inputted part of the sentence, from a database, and a subsequent text generation step using text generation means for combining the extracted candidate sentence parts or phrases into an entire sentence, and using parser means to morphologically analyze and parses the entire sentence created in the immediately preceding text generation step to obtain a syntactic structure thereof by determining the syntactic probability of the appropriateness of the order of the sentence parts or phrases by applying a statistical

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technique using a syntactic model, thereby generating a sentence having a maximum probability of being an entire natural sentence which is characteristic of the style or expression.”

Independent claim 7, as amended, recites “a text generation apparatus for generating an entire natural sentence, comprising: input means for inputting only parts of the sentence that do not constitute an entire sentence wherein the natural sentence is characteristic of a style or expression, extracting means for extracting a candidate sentence text or phrase, which includes an inputted part of the sentence, from a database, and text generation means for subsequently combining the extracted candidate sentence parts or phrases into an entire sentence, wherein parser means morphologically analyze and parse the entire sentence created by the text generation means to obtain a syntactic probability of the appropriateness of the order of the sentence by applying a statistical technique using a syntactic model, thereby generating a sentence having a maximum probability of bring an entire natural sentence which is characteristic of the style or expression.”

Applicants respectfully submit that the above combinations of steps and elements as set forth in independent claims 1 and 7 are not disclosed by Weise.

Weise is primarily a grammar checking system which inputs a text string and generates one or more alternative strings of text. Another way of saying this is that Weise starts with entire sentences, checks the grammar of those entire sentences, and ends up with sentences. Weise does not start with just portions/parts of a sentence and generates an entire sentence, as in Applicants’ disclosed and claimed invention. The claimed invention is useful in generating a natural sentence for aphasics, who typically just utter less than a complete sentence. This utility

is disclosed, for example, on pages 1 and 2 of this application. Weise's invention has no concept of building complete sentences from just parts of a sentence.

In this regard, paragraph [0116] of Applicants' published application explicitly discloses that the text generation method may be used in assisting in input of a sentence on mobile terminals that are currently in widespread use and an easy to read sentence may be produced on a mobile terminal a user has difficulty in inputting a sentence. That paragraph goes on to state that, for example, when several words are input to the terminal, sentence candidates are presented, the user selects one from the sentence candidates, thereby generating a sentence as good as one manually generated, and the user simply inputs words, and is thus free from an operation to compose a sentence in detail.

This disclosed and claimed invention is significantly different from Applicants' disclosed and claimed invention.

Accordingly, the Office Action does not make out a *prima facie* case that claims 1, 4-7 and 10-15 are disclosed by Weise, and reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection of claims 1, 4-7 and 10-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Robert J. Webster, Registration No. 46,472 at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: September 10, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

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